Poetry Writing Assignment Number Four: LIST POEMS

A List Poem is a poem created from a list of names or titles.

The goal is to choose items from that list that go together in some sort of poetic way. You don’t have to include everything from the list, just things that stand out to you. The goal is to make the lines connect in some way.

Maybe your list poem will tell a story. Maybe it will include a unique combination of sound and rhythm. There is no wrong way, though, to write a list poem. Make it unique. Make it your own.

You have two options:

1. Use the list of first lines of poems that I have provided.
2. Find your own list and use that. This could be a list of song, movie or book titles, car models, names of perfumes or colognes, board games, etc.

Here are some examples written by school children:

**Heaven** [with perfumes]

Soul mates

Sand and Sable

So pink

Candied melon

Modern

Om

**Pretty, Pretty Princess** [with board games]

Girl Talk

Scrabble

Taboo

Life

Risk

Don’t Wake Daddy

Sorry

**Love Letters** [with song titles]

In dreams

Night streets

Driving sideways

Final miles

Timesteps

Fifty years after the fair

I float alone

The nightengale

Into the night

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SOURCE: *Word Playgrounds* by John O’Connor